



City of CHARLOTTE

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Lewis and City Council Members

FROM: Gregg Guetschow, City Manager

SUBJECT: City Manager Report

DATE: May 5, 2017

Owens-Illinois Plant. I had an opportunity last week to tour the former O-I plant with the new owners, their realtor and representatives from Consumers Energy. The owners have made considerable progress in cleaning up the warehouse areas in preparation for showing them to prospective tenants. I provided our usual assurances of cooperation and confidentiality. I remain confident that there will be significant interest in this space given its proximity to major transportation networks.

Zoning Review Process. As I have previously reported, we continue to experience a high volume of work related to community and economic development. I also anticipated an increase in demand this year for zoning reviews related to residential projects such as decks, fences, garages, additions and the like. These reviews must be completed prior to the issuance of a building permit, a task that is shared between Bryan Myrkle and me that we try to complete very quickly. In order to streamline the process even more so as to limit the time taken from other community development tasks, we have instituted an intake process this year which is handled by the Public Works receptionist. She provides a handout to an applicant describing the information we need, including details for the sketch that is typically required, and begins completing a form that is then forwarded to Bryan or me for completion. In the near future, we will be adding additional information to our website so that applicants can come into the office well prepared for the review process.

Facebook Applications. If you follow the City's Facebook page, you might have noticed that we have begun soliciting job applicants there. This is a new service Facebook has instituted. So far we have used it for a Public Works position and are currently soliciting applicants for a Park Ranger position for the summer. In both instances, we have received applications through Facebook. We believe this offers an opportunity to spread the word further in the local community about vacancies we are filling at a time when fewer people use traditional media for their primary source of local news.